

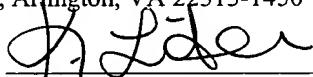


PATENT
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Kristina Levites
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Venkat Gopalan et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 09/516,061

Examiner: Charles L. Patterson Jr.

Filed: March 1, 2000

Customer No.: 21559

Title: NOVEL BACTERIAL RNASE P PROTEINS AND THEIR USE IN
IDENTIFYING ANTIBACTERIAL COMPOUNDS

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the final Office Action that was mailed in connection with the
above-captioned patent application on April 4, 2003, and in reference to the
Advisory Action that was mailed on August 18, 2003, applicants submit the
following Amendment and Remarks.

Kindly amend the application as follows.

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